

# BURRELL HI-LITES

## Drug bust overpowers Pittsburgh's dealers

By Gabby Grillo  
News Editor

An undercover investigation has been going on for a year, and was headed by the Pittsburgh Police. Thirty-one people, mostly all from Braddock, were arrested in the end of the investigation and it was found that nearly three million dollars worth of cocaine had been smuggled from Mexico just to Pittsburgh and areas near there. However, this estimate does not include the amount of cocaine smuggled to the rest of the cities the Teflon Knights were supplying to. Alleged cocaine dealers out of a ring known as Teflon Knights were arrested for the obtaining, selling, and distribution of cocaine. Once in federal custody, it was found that the two men arrested were part of an international flow of drugs. The cocaine was obtained in Mexico, and after being smuggled to the United States, sold to drug dealers in Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as cities in Indiana, New York, and Pittsburgh. Of the thirty-one people arrested, two Bosnian men, Michael Lucerne of Overbrook and David Curran of Upper St. Clair were accused of smuggling the cocaine back to the U.S. Investigators said the Teflon Knights never expected to be caught, and that they had been operating in Pittsburgh for nearly a decade. The Pittsburgh Police hope that this drug bust will prevent future smuggling, distributing, and drug rings in the area.

## Haiti receives horrific shock

By Eric Sokol  
Business Manager

With over thousands left homeless and over ten thousand killed, Haiti and the world are putting forth efforts to rebuild and replenish the city to get it working and functioning better than it has ever been before. The world must not only apply aid to those in need, but they must also rebuild entire cities. On Tuesday January 12, 2010 Haiti experienced one of mother nature took her country by surprise and nocent people. Haiti, a relatively small also not very wealthy as formation traveled across tivists boarded plans, even teamed up with as Google to allow in the restoration of six days of action, raised over 3 million rities.



Many rescuers such as these from France are doing their part to help re-

its most tragic devastations, course and took an entire killed over thousands of in- country is by no surprise a country. So once the in- the world, human rights ac- created organizations and major corporations such the public to take a part the country. With only America alone has dollars from only celeb-

Music artists are not to be left out. There is also word of a benefit concert to be organized soon with names such as Bono and Justin Timberlake already on the line up. With the celebrities taking action, the activists heading down to the city itself, one must wonder what they can do. Well the answer is simple; most companies have links for easy donations. To help the heart-wrenched Haitians, just go to a website and do your part.

## Cure for the peanut allergy

By Katie Uzelac  
Sports Editor

Every year, peanut allergies claim about half of the deaths from food allergies. Even the slightest exposure to peanuts can cause someone who is allergic to have a reaction. Depending on the severity of the person's allergies, reactions range from upset stomachs to throat closings. Unfortunately, there has been no cure found for 2009.

Dr. Wesley Burks, chief allergy and immunol- Medical center, has search for the cure. American Academy of munology, doctors three years, the could be marketed recently testing this children had no 15 peanuts, after



Hanna Carter, 5, receives the medication at Duke University. Gary Broome/Associated Press

tion for ten months. However, more tests will need to be done before the FDA can approve the medication. Not only are these positive results coming from U.S clinics, but researchers in Britain are also having good results with finding a cure. Even though this cure will not be available for a few more years, it looks to be a promising medication. This will change the course of medicine. Since a cure has been found for the peanut allergy, who is to say that there will not be new cures for other allergies found in the near future? With the technology available today, almost anything is possible in the realm of science and medicine.

the allergy, until March of the division of pediatric ogy at Duke University helped to conduct re- During a meeting of Allergy, Asthma and Im- stated that within the next cure for the allergy to the public. While new possible cure, 15 symptoms after eating being on the medica-

# OFFENSIVE SHIRTS WOUND AMERICAN PRIDE

By Adrienne Bracken  
Co-copy editor

A group of nine Detroit students are facing trouble for wearing self-designed t-shirts depicting a caricature of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Tower. The students, juniors at Dearborn High School, claim the shirts were worn to enforce the idea that, even in the face of tragedy, America as a whole will never collapse. Many parents however, disagree with the students and find the shirts distasteful and upsetting. The skepticism of the students on behalf of the fact that all of the 9/11 students are Arab Americans whose 1,700 student count is half Arab American. Jennifer Browne, mother of one of the students in Dearborn High's junior class, theorized that the negative reactions also could come from the recently failed bombing attempt by a Muslim terrorist on Christmas Day. The terrorist's flight destination was Detroit. Suspensions are not planned, though the students are still meeting with school officials to discuss the matter.

Sources:  
Foxnews.com  
ABCnews.com



9/11 GRAPHIC ON THE SHIRTS OF THE JUNIOR STUDENTS.

# Students make choices for fu-

By Alex Overly  
Sports Editor

For many upper classman at Burrell High School, there is the choice between taking AP classes and dual enrolling into local colleges. Some students prefer the AP classes because they are offered at the school. The classes are taught by the teachers at the school and give the students individual attention, as well as furthering their knowledge and capabilities. For these classes at the end of the semester there is a state wide test that is taken. In order to receive college credits for the class, students must score at least a four or five on the test. Some colleges may accept a score of three and still give credit. But none the less students taking part in these courses will receive credits towards graduation. Another choice is to dual enroll in college courses offered at local colleges. In order to take part in these classes, students must have met the requirements given by the school as well as the college. There is an application process involved in signing up as well as an agreement with the school in order to take the chosen classes. Most of the courses are offered after the school day or seniors may be able to leave early on senior release and take the classes they wish too. In either case, the students benefit from a higher level of education and attain the college experience.

# H1N1 pandemic terrorizes citizens

By Lauren Benish  
Feature Editor

One source of paranoia in 2009 was the H1N1 virus that swept around the world. Lines at clinics with the preventive vaccine shot out of the door as citizens tried to avoid the illness when it elevated to pandemic status. The first deaths attributed were reported on April 24<sup>th</sup>, the public entered into a restrict travel and height-ers. Many people have to prevent breathing the in-After the H1N1 vaccines mand for doses drastically dried up their limited doses customers unvaccinated. specific range of people; with children under 6 anyone from 6 to 24 years have medical conditions Throughout the frenzy that H1N1 virus has risen to have begun to restock on vaccinated. Along with issuing more doses, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends, "Wash your hands with soap and water. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth. Try to avoid close contact with sick people." Even though huge strides have been made towards containing the H1N1 virus, the public's fear still lingers over the rising pandemic.



To protect themselves from the virus, some people shield their faces while in public places (Photo Courtesy cnn.com).

to the swine flu in North America 2009. After this announcement, vigilant frenzy. Airports began to ened the clearances for travel-started to wear masks in public fected air. were initially introduced, the de-outweighed the supply. Clinics within days leaving countless The shots are now supplied to a pregnant women, anyone living months old, medical personnel, old, and 25-64 year olds who amplified by forms of influenza. the "swine flu" has created, the critical status. Thankfully, clinics vaccines so more citizens can be

# Terror for Christmas

By Sam Barrett  
Co-Business Manager

Northwest Airlines Flight 253 did not have a very merry Christmas. The passenger flight from Amsterdam, Netherlands to Detroit, Michigan, was shockingly attacked by an alleged Al Qaeda terrorist.

The terrorist, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, attempted to set off a plastic explosive that was at-  
airbus contained attendants, and 3 plane said the man room for around 20 to his seat, covering used the blanket as plosive, composed acid. The explosive did not explode but The other passen- noticed the man passenger, Jasper tallab and at- that started be- hands, severely stated, "I pulled the extinguish the fire away".

Schuringa then lessly across the him for more explo- him. Abdulmutallab be "Staring into ordeal.

The terrorist is a 23- year-old Nigerian man who is the son of one of the richest men in Africa, Alhaji Umaru Mutallab. Abdul- matallab is currently in a Federal Correction institution called Milan in Michigan.



Jasper Schuringa, who is being praised as a hero for stopping the attack on the plane.



Umar Farouk Abdulmatalab

attached to his underwear. The 279 passengers, eight flight pilots. Witnesses aboard the went into the plane's bath- minutes and then went back himself with a blanket. He cover to light the plastic ex- of powder mixed with liquid failed to ignite properly and instead set the plane on fire. gers and flight attendants and took action. A certain Schuringa, tackled Abdulmu- tempted to put the fire out tween his legs with his burning them. Schuringa object from him and tried to with my hands and threw it

dragged Abdulmutallab help- plane to the front, searched sives, and then handcuffed was said by Schuringa to nothing" during the entire

## Burrell High School hires assistant principal

By Alina Phillips  
Editor-in-Chief

Many students at Burrell High School have probably realized that Burrell has a new assistant principal. In fact, he was the guidance counselor at Burrell since 2006. Mr. Croushore has been named the new assistant principal. Croushore has be- come the assistant principal be- cause Mr. Roland has become the principal at Kiski Area High School.

Croushore obtained his bachelor of science in psychology at Saint Vincent College, his counseling degree at the California Univer- sity of Pennsylvania, and his certification of administration at the University of Pittsburgh. Croushore had previously been the guidance counselor at Eliza- beth Forward in South Hills and at Duquesne High School and Middle School.

Croushore will not still be the guidance counselor at Burrell but stated, "They are in the process for hiring someone for the counselor position."

Croushore also added that both he and Mrs. Oskin are "Available for anything guidance related." In addition, Croushore com-

mented that he is al- ways there to help students and if they need anything to stop into the office.

Croushore had an ad- ditional comment for students and stated, "I have felt since I have worked here that students are truly un- aware of what they are capable of. Our students are some of the best and brightest in Pennsylvania and no student at Burrell has to settle for being average. Do your best and always try to achieve for greatness." The staff of Burrell Hi- Lites would like to congratulate Mr. Crou- shore on becoming the new assistant principal.

## School protects students from bad weather conditions

By Christina Stoltz  
Staff writer

Due to recent weather conditions, many schools have had two hour delays and cancella- tions. The purpose of two hour delays and cancellations is to keep the students safe from bad weather conditions. If the would be unsafe for students stop. The bus drivers get a say conditions are safe for students have a two hour delay or a According to Mr. Boylan, Burrell want to place forty or fifty lives conditions."

Two hour delays are also based Boylan commented, "We coor- cause we share busses for Students in the past used to they are not likely because of ents about their children be- at work. If conditions are school would just be cancelled. If weather conditions are bad enough, the school can pre- vent students from going home because of safety reasons. In the past, Burrell had to keep elementary students from going home because of a flood. The schools main concern is the safety of the students.

Boylan mentioned that hospitals and other organizations don't operate on a two hour delay schedule and the reason that schools do is because schools work with kids and the school is responsible for the students' lives.



To check for school delays or can- cellations tune in to weather chan- nels or go to the schools website [www.burrell.k12.pa.us/burrellsd](http://www.burrell.k12.pa.us/burrellsd).

wind chill is negative then it to be standing outside at the bus in whether or not the weather and they help decide if school will cancellation.

High School principal, "We never in a bus drivers hands with bad on other districts.

dinate around other districts be- Votech."

get early dismissals but now previous complaints from par- ing home alone while they are supposed to be bad all day,

# Genocide causes conflict in Darfur

By Rachel Wilson  
Opinions Editor

The United Nations is determining whether or not the killing in Darfur, Sudan is indeed genocide. Genocide is any of acts committed with intent to destroy a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group.

According to the International Rescue Committee, vulnerable women and children are dealing with the most hardships during this time of war. Because of the war Southern Sudan was involved from 1983-2005, the infrastructure there is ruined. Over 1.5 million cannot live without food and over half of Southern Sudanese does not have access to clean, healthy water. Pastor Ken Foust went to Sudan in early 2008. Although he was not allowed to go into any part of Darfur—for it is far too dangerous, he met Daniel Hamed, who is the principal at Gerief Bi-ble School (which is actually a van of food and water into Darfur every month for the poor. He has been shot at numerous times when going into Darfur, but still makes the trip for the sake of others.



©CNN

A child thin as a rail from malnutrition and suffering from starvation in Darfur.

Foust commented, "The genocide might be over now because what was supposed to be done (the genocide) has been done with the thousands of killings of innocent people."

After other genocides have occurred, many nations vowed to not allow the tragic event to ever happen again, yet what is going on in Darfur is genocide just like other genocides in the past.

## CIA BOMBING LEAVES AMERICANS QUESTIONING SECURITY OVERSEAS

Melanie Weiland  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, December 30, a suicide bomber attacked a CIA base in Khost, Afghanistan. Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi, the bomber, was recruited by Jordanian intelligence in order to infiltrate Taliban and al Qaeda. The Jordanian intelligence agency believed that al-Balawi would be a good cause of his previous association with Islamists. Many intelligence agencies must rely to gather information about future terrorist attacks because they are the only ones with the access to the information. The attack killed seven people and injured many others, making it the deadliest CIA bombing since 1983. The security guards of the base did not closely search al-Balawi because the spy agencies labeled him as a valuable informant with high-quality intelligence. Also, he relayed information about al Qaeda for months and no incident occurred.



THE PICTURE ABOVE IS OF AL-BALAWI, THE ASSAILANT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CIA BOMBING AND SEVEN DEATHS. PHOTO COURTESY NEW YORK TIMES

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was a propaganda boost. Al-Balawi was an Islamist blogger who took radical direct action for his country, hoping to inspire others.

The death tolls among U.S. military forces have been the highest ever since the Afghanistan war began in October 2001. In 2009 alone, 311 American troops have been killed, bringing the death total up to 941. The attack on the CIA base shows how connected the Taliban and locals are and how the Americans overseas might have underestimated them.

# Burrell Hockey needs fans

By Darren Myers  
Photo Editor

For anyone who is confused Burrell does have a hockey team. They play their home games at the Valley Sports Complex. It is a merged team with Highlands, Valley, Penn Hills, and Mary Queen of Apostles. On Thursday January 14, 2010, Burrell played Fox Chapel. Fox Chapel started the game with three quick goals in the first period. One goal with 8:50 left, another with 6:58 left, and the final one with 6:09 left. With Burrell not playing up to standards and becoming frustrated, a tripping penalty was taken by senior captain, Ben Beal. Burrell failed to score in the first period but would not go down without a fight in the second.

Burrell started off the period moving at a fast pace and making nice passes, not staying in their zone for that long. Burrell scored two goals to cut the lead down to one. The goals were scored by #14 Keisel and by #15 Beal. Burrell had eight shots in the second and gained momentum but with forty seconds left in the second, Fox Chapel scored, making the lead by two. Going into the third period, it was a back and forth game. Each team had opportunities, but Burrell capitalized on less than Fox Chapel. Burrell scored another goal which put Burrell away. Burrell put up a good fight, but that night just was not their night. Missed opportunities and given up chances hurt them that day. They have the talent to make it a good season so go support the Burrell hockey team.